

349—1.6(28) Iowa board.

1.6(1) *Membership.* The Iowa board shall consist of 18 voting members: 13 citizen members and 5 state agency director members. Six legislators shall serve as nonvoting members.

a. Five members shall be the directors, not the designees, of the state agencies of economic development, education, human rights, human services and public health.

b. The 13 citizen members shall be appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate.

(1) Appointments of citizen members shall ensure that each of the state's congressional districts is represented by two citizen members.

(2) Citizen members may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, and paid a per diem as stated in Iowa Code section 7E.6.

(3) Appointments shall reflect the ethnic, cultural, social, and economic diversity of the state. The governor's appointees shall be selected from individuals nominated by community boards.

(4) Appointments shall reflect the community board membership of one or more members each representing education, health, human services, business, faith, consumer and public interest.

c. Six legislators shall serve as nonvoting members of the Iowa board.

(1) Three legislators shall be appointed by the speaker of the house, with not more than two representing the same political affiliation, following consultation with the majority and minority leaders.

(2) Three legislators shall be appointed by the majority leader of the senate, with not more than two representing the same political affiliation, following consultation with the president of the senate and the minority leader of the senate.

(3) Legislative members are eligible for per diem and expenses as provided in Iowa Code section 2.10.

1.6(2) *Structure.*

a. The Iowa board shall adopt bylaws to establish structure and function.

(1) The chairperson shall be elected from the citizen members.

(2) A simple majority of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum.

(3) Terms of office of all citizen members are three years.

(4) A vacancy on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the balance of the term.

b. The Iowa board shall meet a minimum of four times during the state fiscal year. Additional meetings may be called upon the request of the chairperson or upon the call of a majority of the voting members.

1.6(3) *Iowa board responsibility.*

a. The Iowa board may designate an advisory council consisting of representatives from community boards and persons knowledgeable or interested in the fields of health, human services, education and early childhood.

b. The Iowa board shall strive for coordination of services for children and their families through a state and local community partnership.

c. The Iowa board shall provide for maximum flexibility and creativity in the designation and administration of the responsibilities and authority of community boards and empowerment areas.

d. The Iowa board shall adopt guidance for community empowerment in Iowa. The guidance shall include at a minimum:

(1) The following state-level indicators are adopted and indirectly quantify the achievement of the desired results set forth in rule 1.2(28):

1. Low birth weight;
2. Immunized children;
3. Preliteracy skills;
4. Children in quality preschools;
5. Incidence of child abuse;
6. Teen births;
7. Crime rate;

8. Juvenile crime;
 9. Employment rate;
 10. Child abuse in a child care setting;
 11. Availability of child care; and
 12. Quality child care ratings.
- (2) State-level indicators to be measured and available each fiscal year as compared with a baseline and prior fiscal years, as data is available.
- (3) A process to request a plan of action from an empowerment area regarding progress toward desired results.
- (4) Guidelines for progress reports by empowerment areas, including a process to report progress toward achieving results.
- (5) Core functions for family support, parent support and preschool services provided through the community plan.
- (6) Integration of statewide quality standards and results indicators adopted by other boards and commissions into the Iowa empowerment board's funding requirements for investments in early care, education, health, and human services.
- e.* The Iowa board shall annually submit results to the governor and general assembly.
 - f.* The Iowa board shall regularly make information available identifying community empowerment funding and funding distributed for purposes of the early care system.
 - g.* The Iowa board shall evaluate and determine empowerment area requests for approval of revised local structure and boundaries.
 - h.* The Iowa board shall develop guidelines for insurance or other liability coverage of community boards.
 - i.* The Iowa board shall, with extensive community input, develop and annually update a five-year and a ten-year plan to assist empowerment areas to reach collaboration and strive to align local assets and resources to reach desired results. The annual plan update will be provided each December to empowerment areas, the governor, and the general assembly.
 - j.* The Iowa board shall identify bodies in state government providing overlapping and similar purposes to the public in early care, education, health, and human service and make recommendations and provide an annually updated strategic plan to the governor and general assembly to improve efficiencies, increase alignment, coordination, consolidation or integration of quality functions to achieve desired results, and for integration of state-administered funding streams directed to community empowerment areas and other community-based efforts for providing early care, education, health, and human service.
 - k.* The Iowa board shall coordinate, consolidate, or integrate community-level committees, coalitions, planning groups, and other bodies with common purposes and memberships formed in response to state requirements.
 - l.* The Iowa board shall evaluate and respond to requests from a community board for consolidation or integration to enhance reaching desired results. In order to implement a waiver, the community boards will follow the current waiver process as identified in administrative rules of each state agency.
 - m.* The Iowa board shall establish a process for designation to occur every three fiscal years.
 - (1) The Iowa board determines the award of designation status to an empowerment area.
 - (2) The community board evaluates:
 1. Community plan;
 2. Progress toward local indicators and performance measures;
 3. Collaboration process;
 4. Management of empowerment funds; and
 5. Local system development.
 - n.* The Iowa board shall review annual reports that include indicator data and performance measure data submitted from local areas and may request a plan for corrective action or withdraw grant funding.

o. The Iowa board shall provide for the operation of an Internet Web page for purposes of widely distributing early care information provided by the departments represented on the board and the public and private agencies addressing the early care system.

(1) Information provided on the Internet Web page shall include but not be limited to all of the following:

1. The early learning standards for children aged three to five proposed by the early learning standards group created pursuant to federal child care and development block grant requirements and with assistance from the Iowa child care and early education network, department of education, department of human services, Iowa head start association, and Iowa state university of science and technology, as prepared with consideration of the standards and recommendations issued by the United States Department of Education regarding early childhood cognitive development and learning and preschool and research-based standards for high-quality early care, including but not limited to the practices identified by the Institute of Education Sciences of the United States Department of Education. As early learning standards are identified in law, the proposed standards posted on the Web page shall be replaced with the standards identified in law.

2. A link to a special Web page directed to parents, including parent-specific information on early care and information regarding the early childhood development credits under Iowa Code section 422.12C, and links to other resources available on the Internet and from other sources.

3. Program standards for early care that have been approved by state agencies.

4. A single point of contact for use by a parent in accessing the community empowerment area programs and early care programs that are available in the parent's area.

(2) The Iowa board shall include information regarding the extent and frequency of usage of the Web page in the board's annual report to the governor and general assembly.

p. The Iowa board shall establish an early childhood business committee to serve in an advisory role to the Iowa board on the use of the gifts and grants account funds and to support the implementation of the business community investment advisory council recommendations through first years first.